ABSTRACT

A beamblock tray for use with multiple defining heads within a medical linear accelerator is disclosed. The beamblock tray comprises a tray portion, and a plurality of coded connectors coupled to the tray portion that make the tray "intelligent" enough to identify its orientation to a user. The tray portion can be inserted into the defining head in a plurality of directions based upon the plurality of coded connectors. A system and method in accordance with the present invention utilizes a plurality of coded connectors that can be used to identify a patient. In addition, the connectors and a mounting flange are such that permits the tray to be inserted in a plurality of directions. Finally, a coding system is provided that prevents radiation from being delivered if the tray is oriented correctly. A dual axis beamblock tray in accordance with the present invention circumvents this problem by a counting for the two possible orientations of beamblock tray holders, thereby permitting the radiation therapist to use a single tray with a variety of linear accelerators.